



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

May 21, 2001

Reply To

Attn Of: ECL-115

Lynn Peterson, Regional Solicitor
U.S. Department of Interior
500 N.E. Multnomah St., Suite 607
Portland, Oregon 97232

Re: Upper Columbia River sampling, northeast WA

Dear Ms. Peterson:

As you may be aware, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting a sampling site investigation (SI) of the Upper Columbia River in northeast Washington. The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information regarding EPA's on-going assessment of the Upper Columbia River and a brief description of field activities planned for this year.

In May/June of this year, sediment samples will be collected from the northern reach of the Upper Columbia River beginning at Inchelium, WA extending northward to the US-Canada border. EPA also plans to visit a number of mines and mills located within the Upper Columbia River drainage area this Summer. The purpose of which is to help identify potential contaminant sources to the Upper Columbia River.

Based on a search of property ownership, the mines and mills to be visited are situated on either federally-owned or private property. A preliminary list of mines and mills that appear to be situated on federally-owned property is provided in Enclosure 1. A list of mines and mills for which we are currently verifying ownership is included in Enclosure 2. Please be assured that EPA contractor personnel will coordinate field activities with the appropriate federal agency staff.

The sampling SI is a screening step that will help determine whether further detailed investigation or action by EPA or others is needed. Further information regarding EPA's assessment activities is provided in the enclosed Fact Sheet. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (206) 553-0323.

Sincerely,

Monica Tonel

Monica Tonel
Site Assessment Manager

Enclosures

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**Preliminary List of Mines and Mills
(visits to be conducted in June/July 2001)**

Mine/Mill Name	County	Property Ownership
Gold Bar	Stevens	BLM
Homestake	Stevens	BLM
Lottie	Stevens	BLM
Sierra Zinc/Blue Ridge	Stevens	BLM
Keystone	Stevens	Forest Service
Lucky Four	Stevens	Forest Service
Evergreen	Stevens	Forest Service
United Treasure	Stevens	Forest Service
Hubbard	Stevens	Forest Service
King Tut	Pend Orielle	Forest Service
Oriole	Pend Orielle	Forest Service
Red Top	Pend Orielle	Forest Service
Lead Hill	Pend Orielle	Forest Service

**Preliminary List of Mines and Mills
(visits to be conducted in June/July 2001)**

Mine/Mill Name	County	Search indicates ownership is
New Leadville	Stevens	private or BLM
Minorca	Stevens	private or BLM
Antelope	Stevens	private or BLM
Scandia	Stevens	private or BLM
Sterling	Pend Orielle	private or BLM
Bella May	Pend Orielle	private or BLM
Washington	Pend Orielle	private, BLM or FS
Z Canyon	Pend Orielle	private, BLM or FS
Hoage	Pend Orielle	private, BLM or FS
Lucky Strike	Pend Orielle	private, BLM or FS
Hanley	Pend Orielle	private, state or FS
Calhoun	Stevens	private or USGS
Hope & Twin Cabins	Stevens	DNR or BLM
Morning	Stevens	private or FS
Magma	Stevens	private or FS
Lucile	Stevens	private or FS
Lakeview	Stevens	private or FS
Myeerah	Stevens	private or FS
Scaman	Stevens	private or FS
Iroquois	Stevens	private or FS
Lead King	Pend Orielle	private or FS
Lead Queen	Pend Orielle	private or FS
Cliff	Pend Orielle	private or FS
Bechtol	Stevens	private or USA
Thompson	Stevens	USA
Lead trust	Stevens	USA
Electric Point	Stevens	USA
Gladstone	Stevens	USA
RJ	Stevens	USA
Uncle Sam	Stevens	USA